

SPIDER-MAN

The Root of All Annoyance



YOST
RYAN
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MARVEL

ONE-SHOT

1

SEVERAL YEARS AGO...

Nooooo!

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"the
**ROOT of ALL
ANNOYANCE**"



 I HATE THIS.
I MEAN, SERIOUSLY.

GIVE ME SOMEONE I CAN PUNCH.
RHINO, FOR INSTANCE. I'D RATHER BE
PUNCHING THE RHINO THAN DOING THIS.

HMM. THAT SOUNDS KIND
OF DIRTY. PUNCHING THE
LIZARD? NO, THAT'S WORSE.



I'M A GENIUS SUPER HERO. HOW CAN
I NOT BALANCE A CHECKBOOK?!

I'M SO OFF, I HAVE NO IDEA HOW
MUCH MONEY I HAVE LEFT. ENOUGH
FOR PIZZA TONIGHT, I THINK. I HOPE.

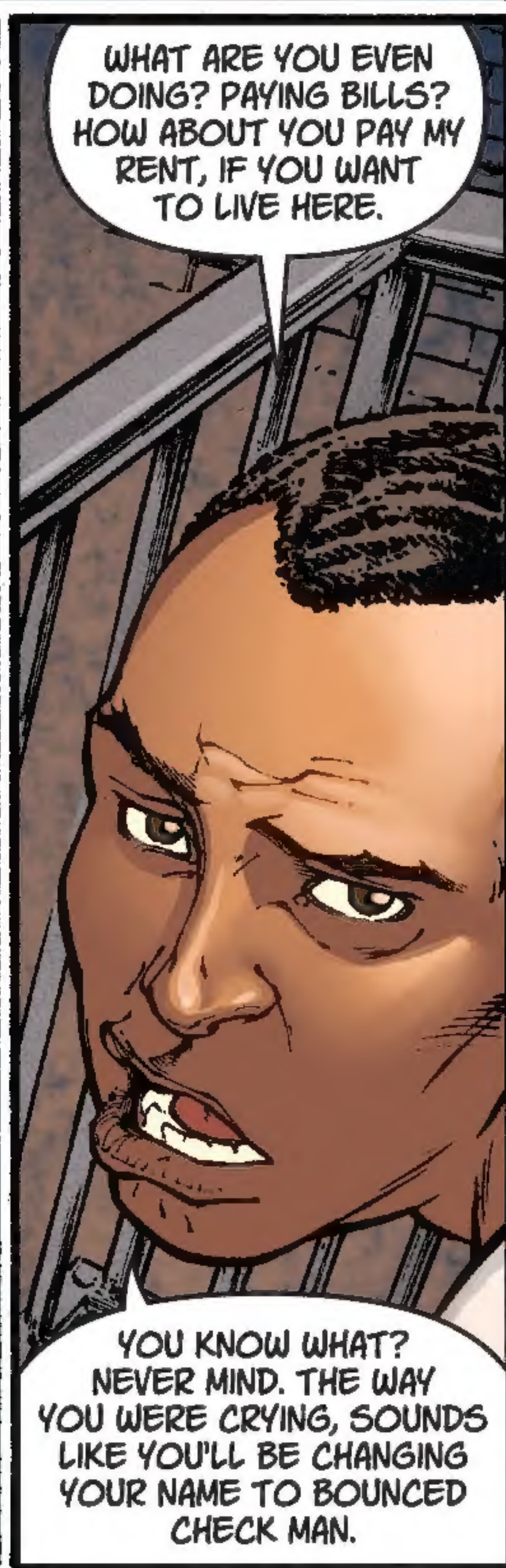
HEY!

I HATE THE FACT
THAT I NEVER HAVE
ANY MONEY. I BET
IRON MAN CAN
BALANCE HIS CHECK--



WHAT IS YOUR
PROBLEM?! YOU
DON'T SEE ME HANGING
OUTSIDE YOUR WINDOW,
SCREAMING BLOODY
MURDER. GET OUT
OF HERE!

TAKE IT
EASY, PAL.
I'M GOING.



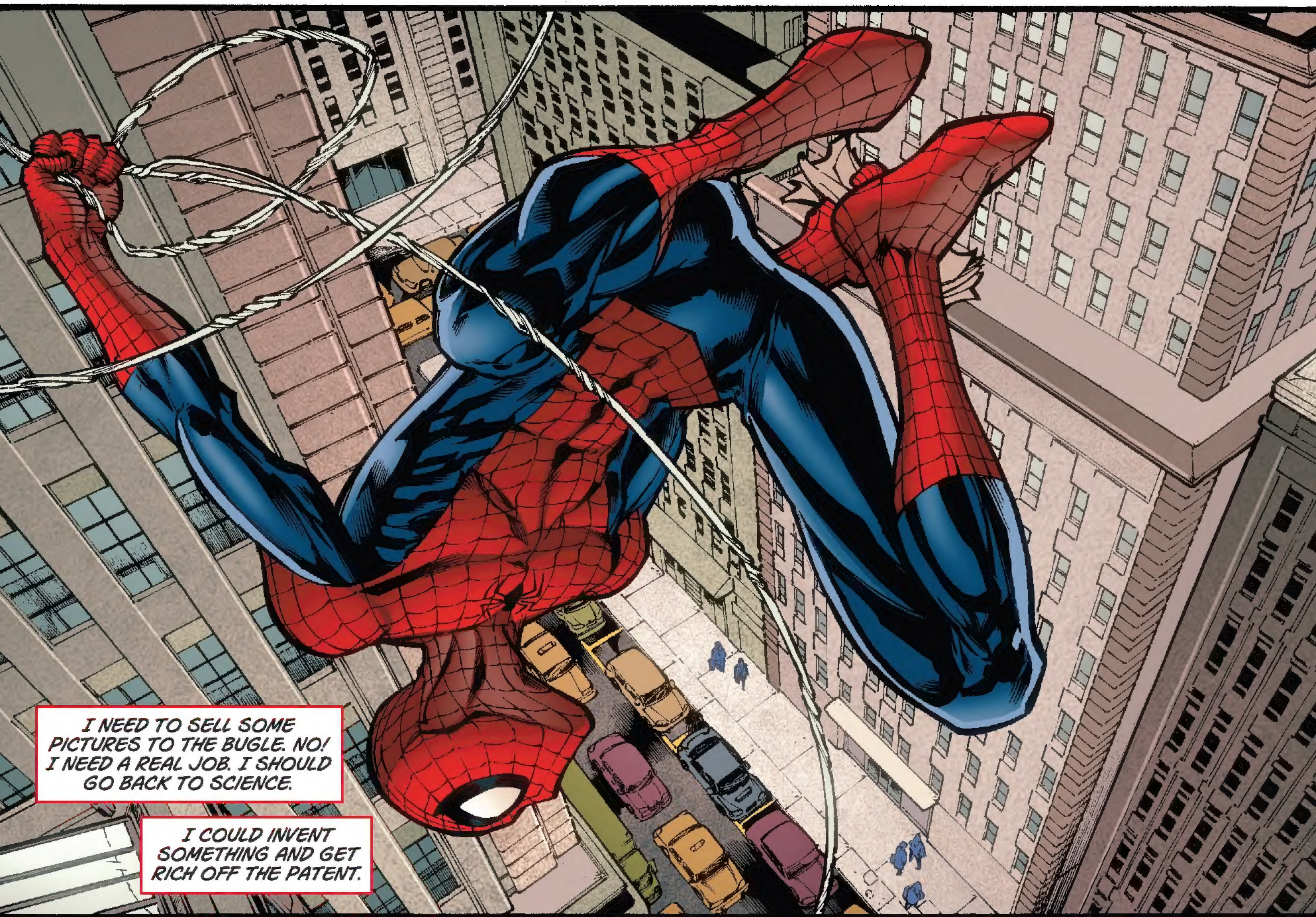
WHAT ARE YOU EVEN
DOING? PAYING BILLS?
HOW ABOUT YOU PAY MY
RENT, IF YOU WANT
TO LIVE HERE.

YOU KNOW WHAT?
NEVER MIND. THE WAY
YOU WERE CRYING, SOUNDS
LIKE YOU'LL BE CHANGING
YOUR NAME TO BOUNCED
CHECK MAN.



ARGH.

I HATE THIS.
AND I HATE
NEW YORK.



I NEED TO SELL SOME PICTURES TO THE BUGLE. NO! I NEED A REAL JOB. I SHOULD GO BACK TO SCIENCE.

I COULD INVENT SOMETHING AND GET RICH OFF THE PATENT.

I SHOULD HAVE HUNG OUT WITH POWER MAN AND IRON FIST MORE. IN RETROSPECT, HEROES FOR HIRE WAS GENIUS.

SO I'VE GOT MAYBE THREE DAYS TO GET SOME MONEY IN MY ACCOUNT BEFORE THESE CHECKS BOUNCE.

SPARE SOME CHANGE, BUDDY?

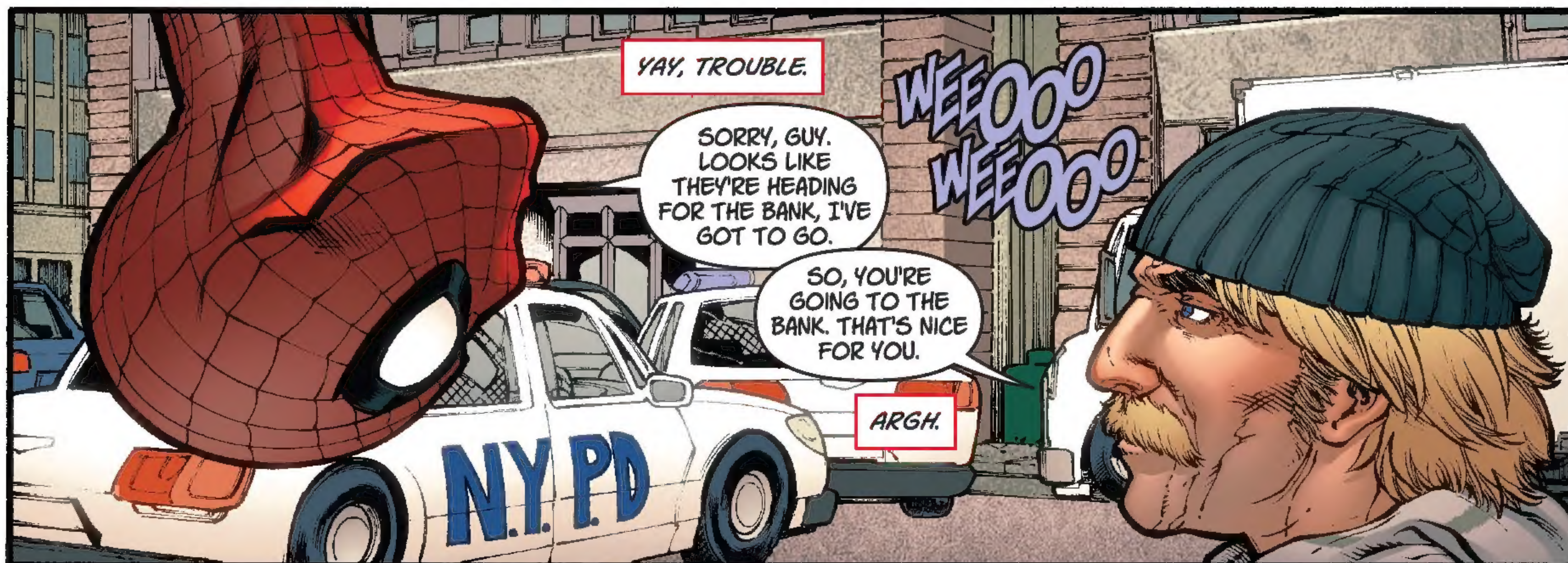


UH, SORRY. I--I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ON ME.

PRETTY FANCY COSTUME FOR A GUY WITH NO MONEY.

WELL--

WEEOOO
WEEOOO



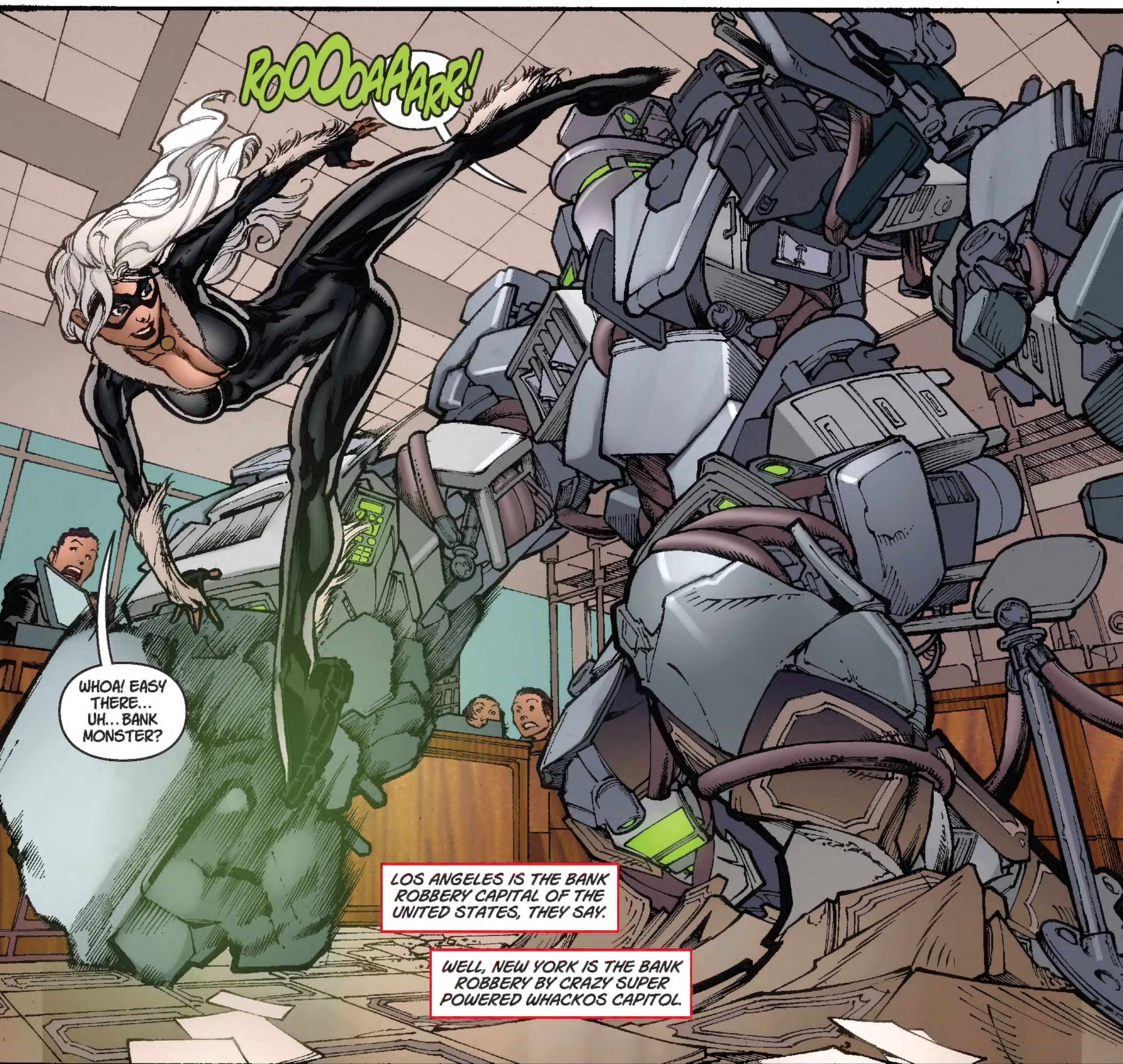
YAY, TROUBLE.

SORRY, GUY. LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE HEADING FOR THE BANK, I'VE GOT TO GO.

SO, YOU'RE GOING TO THE BANK. THAT'S NICE FOR YOU.

ARGH.

WEEOOO
WEEOOO

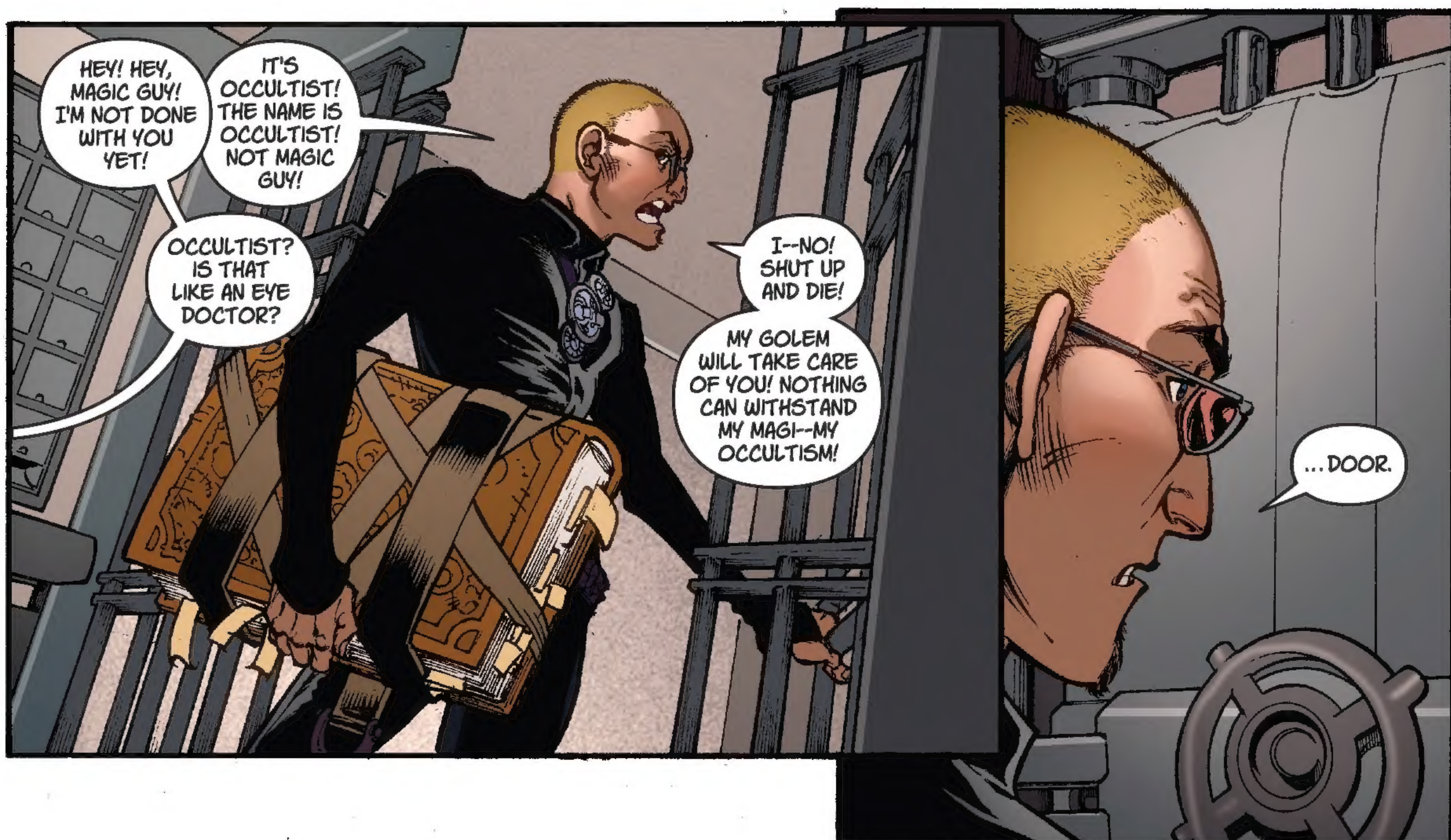


ROOOOAAAARR!

WHOA! EASY
THERE...
UH... BANK
MONSTER?

LOS ANGELES IS THE BANK
ROBBERY CAPITAL OF THE
UNITED STATES, THEY SAY.

WELL, NEW YORK IS THE BANK
ROBBERY BY CRAZY SUPER
POWERED WHACKOS CAPITOL.



HEY! HEY,
MAGIC GUY!
I'M NOT DONE
WITH YOU
YET!

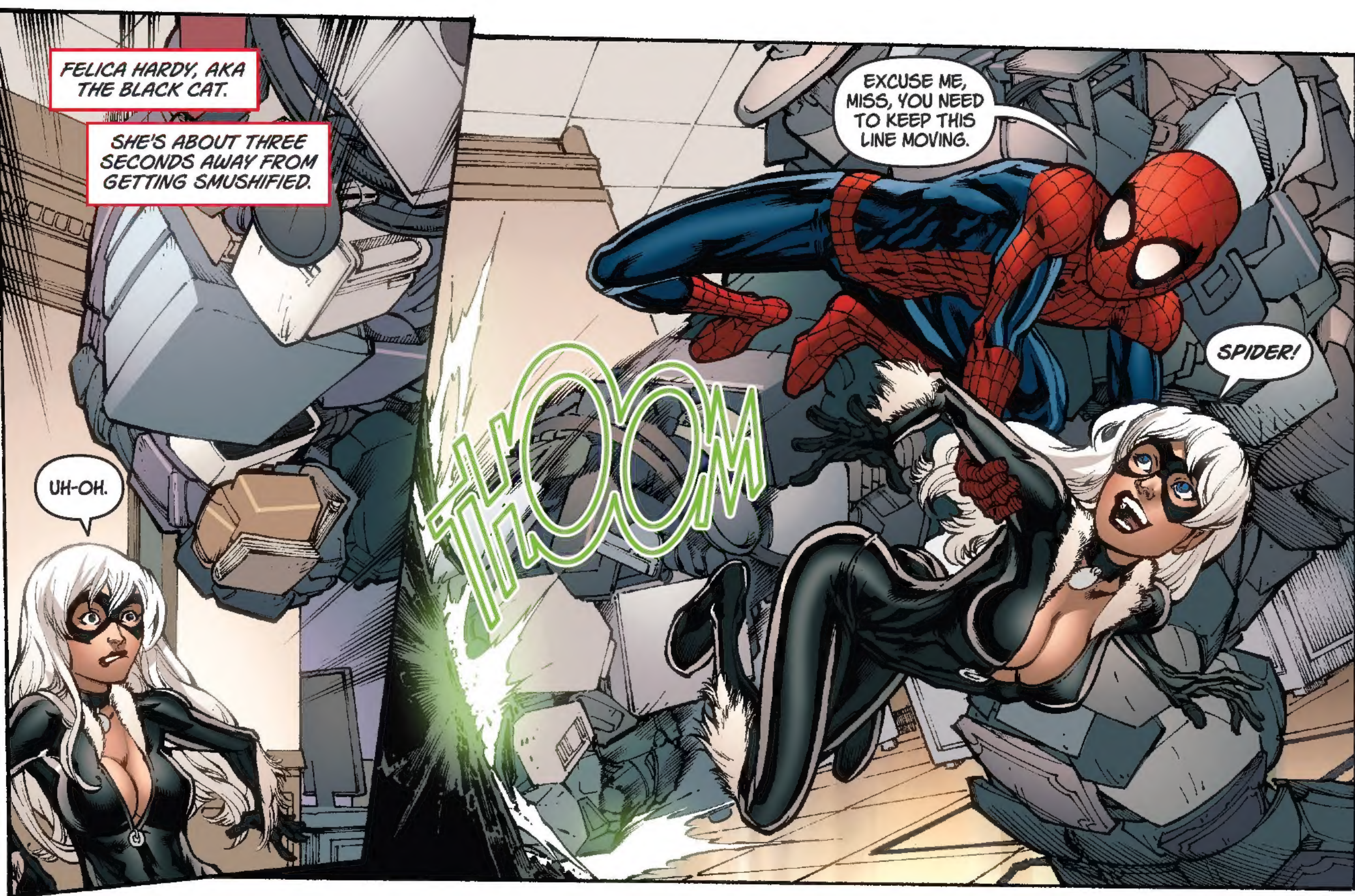
IT'S
OCCULTIST!
THE NAME IS
OCCULTIST!
NOT MAGIC
GUY!

OCCULTIST?
IS THAT
LIKE AN EYE
DOCTOR?

I--NO!
SHUT UP
AND DIE!

MY GOLEM
WILL TAKE CARE
OF YOU! NOTHING
CAN WITHSTAND
MY MAGI--MY
OCCULTISM!

... DOOR.



FELICA HARDY, AKA THE BLACK CAT.

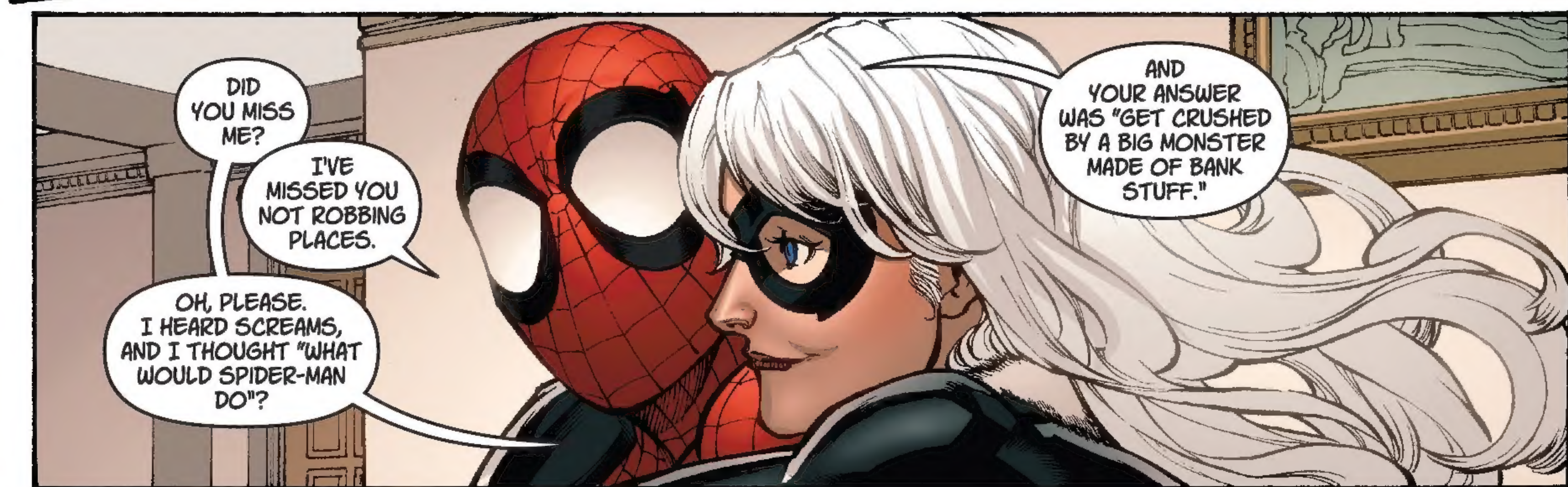
SHE'S ABOUT THREE SECONDS AWAY FROM GETTING SMUSHIFIED.

EXCUSE ME, MISS, YOU NEED TO KEEP THIS LINE MOVING.

SPIDER!

UH-OH.

THOOM

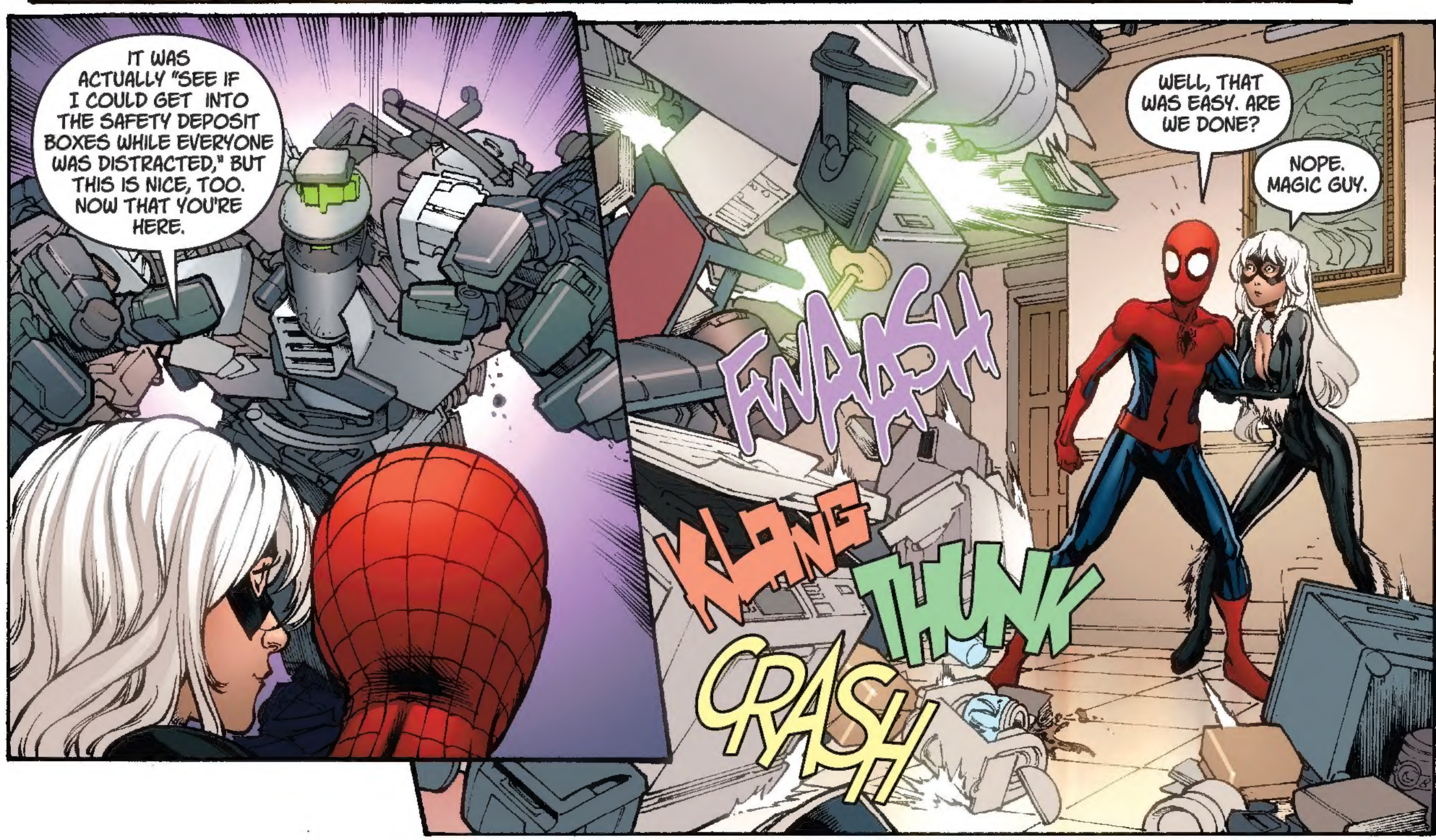


DID YOU MISS ME?

I'VE MISSED YOU NOT ROBBING PLACES.

OH, PLEASE. I HEARD SCREAMS, AND I THOUGHT "WHAT WOULD SPIDER-MAN DO?"

AND YOUR ANSWER WAS "GET CRUSHED BY A BIG MONSTER MADE OF BANK STUFF."



IT WAS ACTUALLY "SEE IF I COULD GET INTO THE SAFETY DEPOSIT BOXES WHILE EVERYONE WAS DISTRACTED," BUT THIS IS NICE, TOO. NOW THAT YOU'RE HERE.

WELL, THAT WAS EASY. ARE WE DONE?

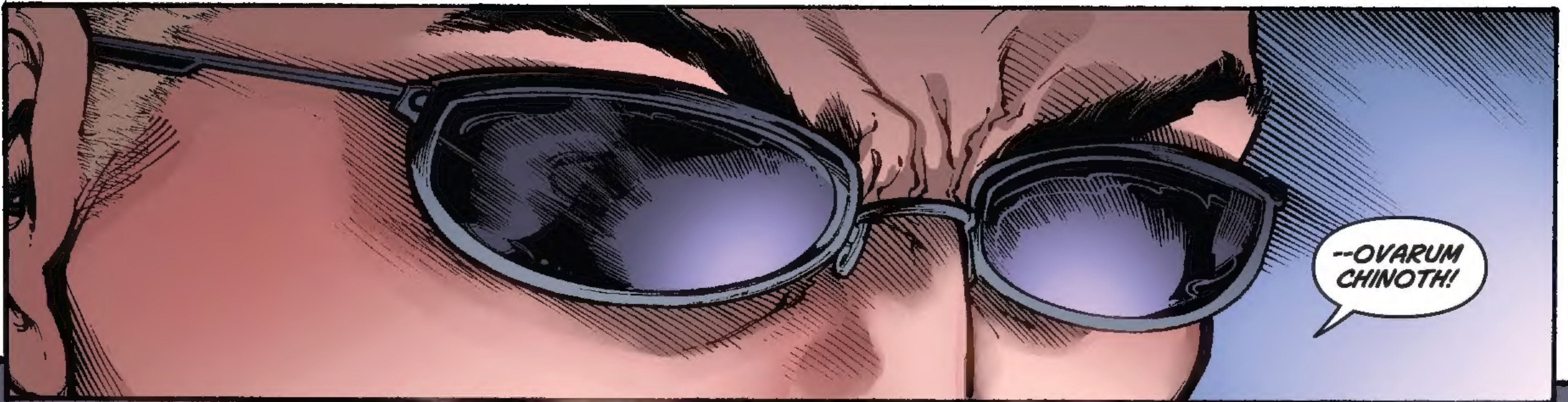
NOPE. MAGIC GUY.

FWAPSH

KLONG

THUNK

CRASH



--OVARUM
CHINOTH!



PRETTY
IMPRESSIVE.

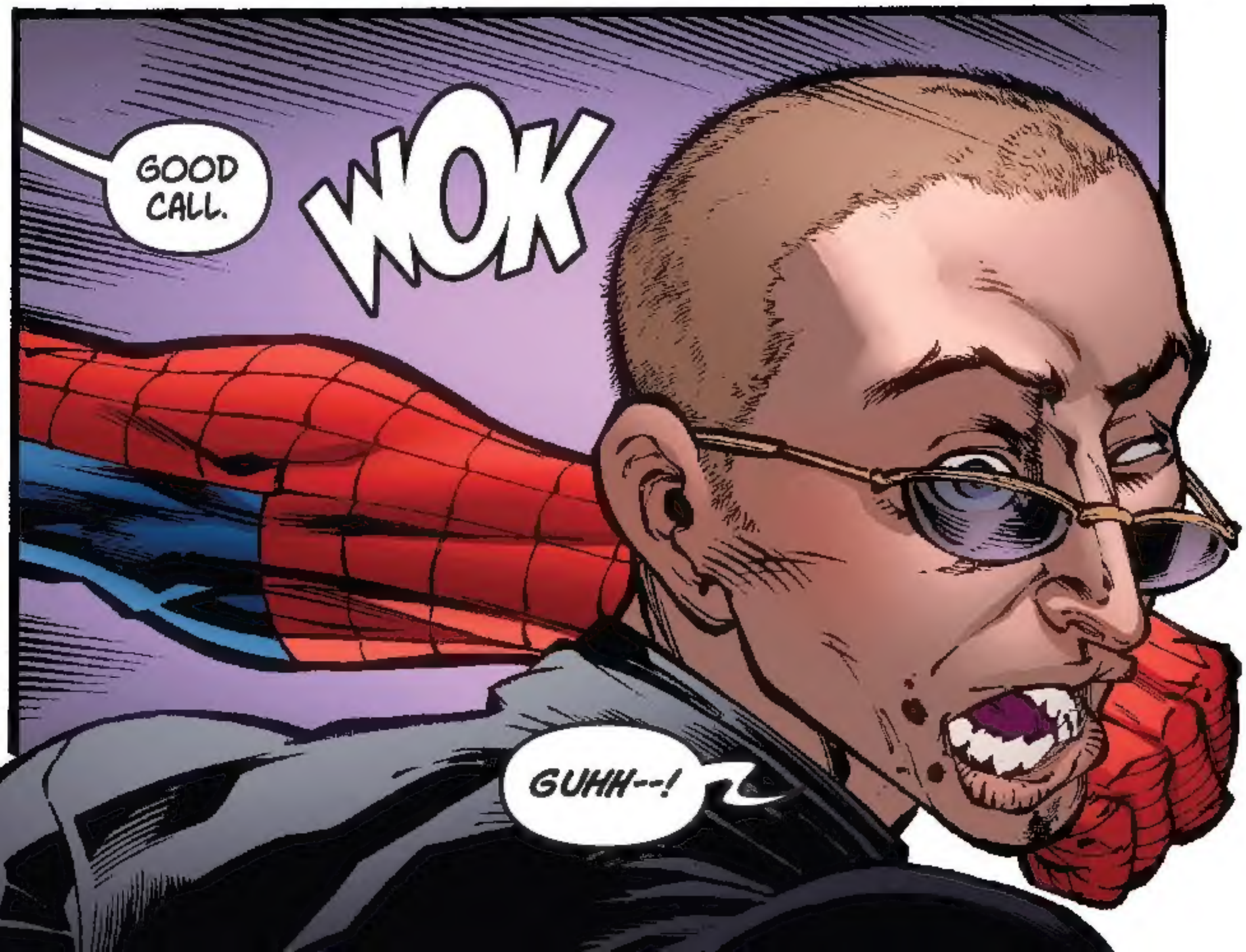
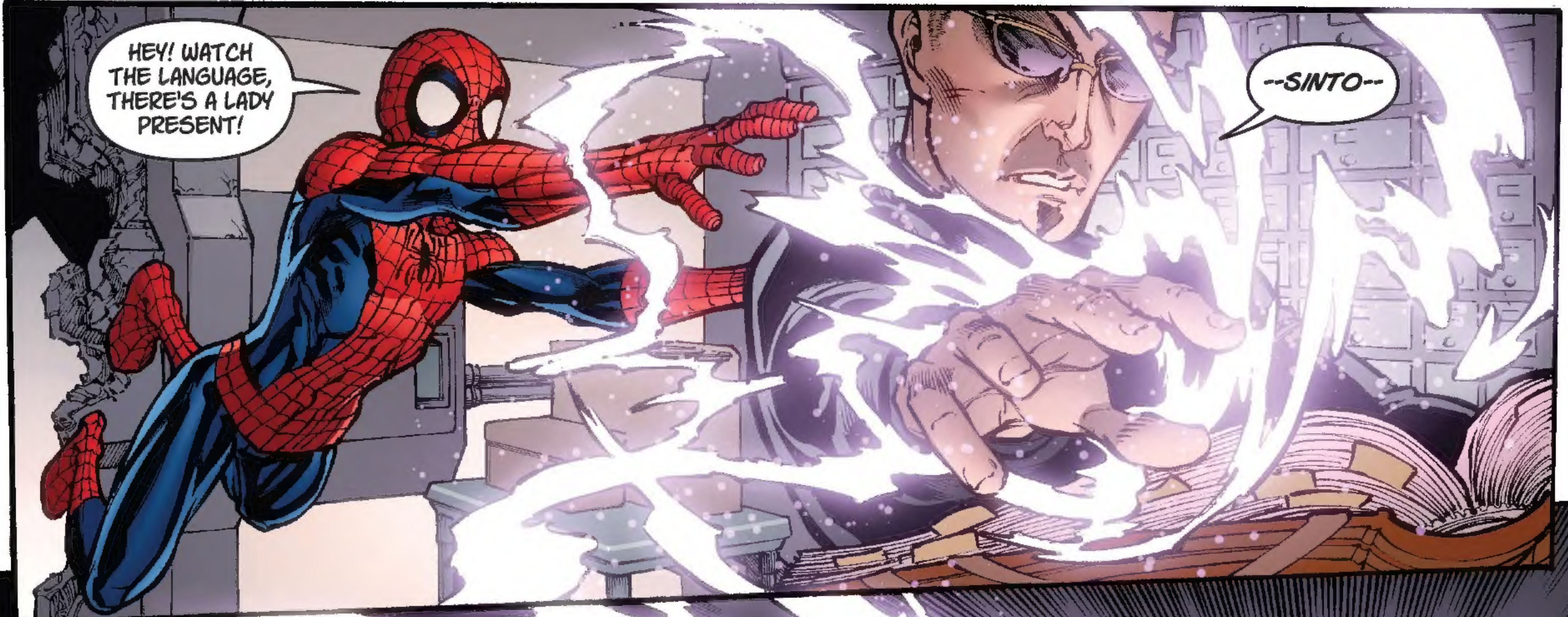
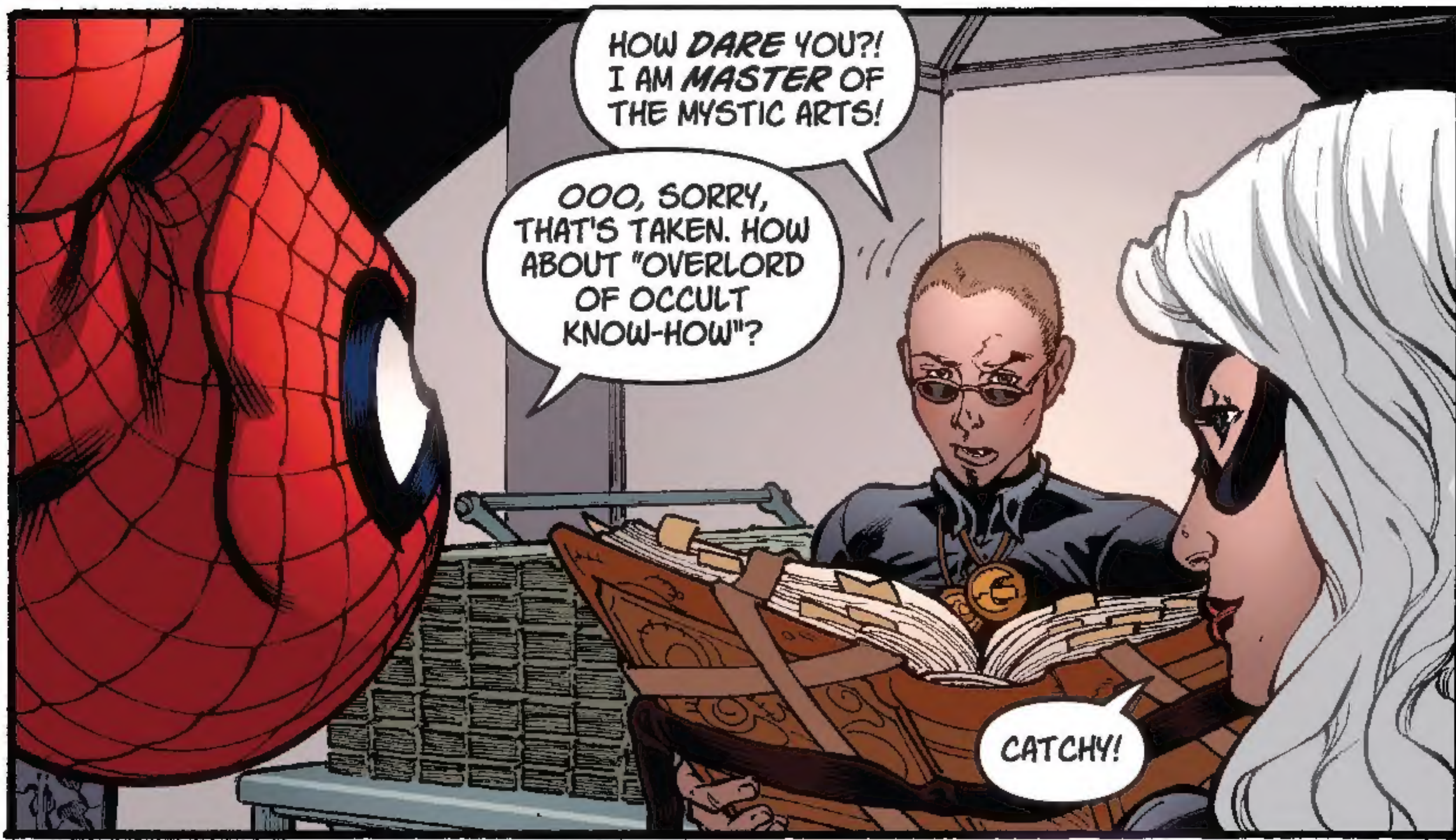


THE MONEY,
THAT IS. NOT YOU. YOU
LOOK LIKE YOU LEARNED
MAGIC LAST WEEK. CAN YOU
ONLY DO ONE SPELL AT A
TIME? IS THAT WHY YOUR
MONSTER DISAPPEARED?
SO SAD.

WHOO.
SO WE SPLIT
THIS THREE WAYS,
RIGHT? WHAT DO
YOU SAY,
BOYS?

YOU'RE
EMBARRASSING ME,
CAT. ANYWAY, MAGIC
GUY... GAME OVER. HOW
DID YOU THINK YOU WERE
GOING TO GET ALL
THAT MONEY OUT OF
HERE? MAGIC
POCKETS?









WOW, THAT WAS A LOT OF MONEY. I'LL GIVE MAGIC GUY THAT MUCH, HE REACHED FOR THE GOLD RING.

I WONDER HOW MUCH CAT TOOK.

I WONDER WHERE SHE PUT IT. THAT COSTUME--NO! THINK CLEAN THOUGHTS!



HOME SWEET RENTED ROOM.

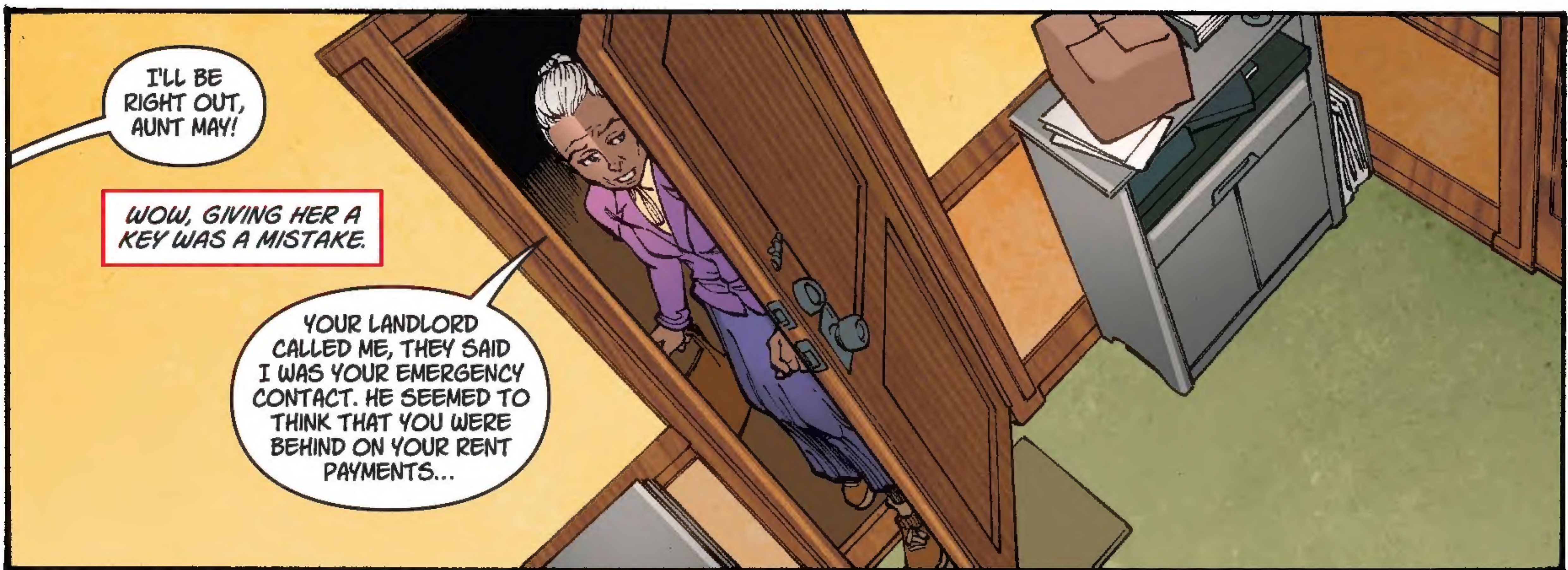
I COULD ASK THE BUGLE FOR AN ADVANCE FOR THE THOUSANDTH TIME. SINCE I'M OUT OF DIGNITY ALREADY.

WHY COULDN'T I HAVE BEEN BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE DIGNITY BUG? OR A MONEY BUG.



I NEED TO GIVE MYSELF A PAPER CUT FROM AN IRRADIATED HUNDRED DOLLAR BILL. I--UH-OH.

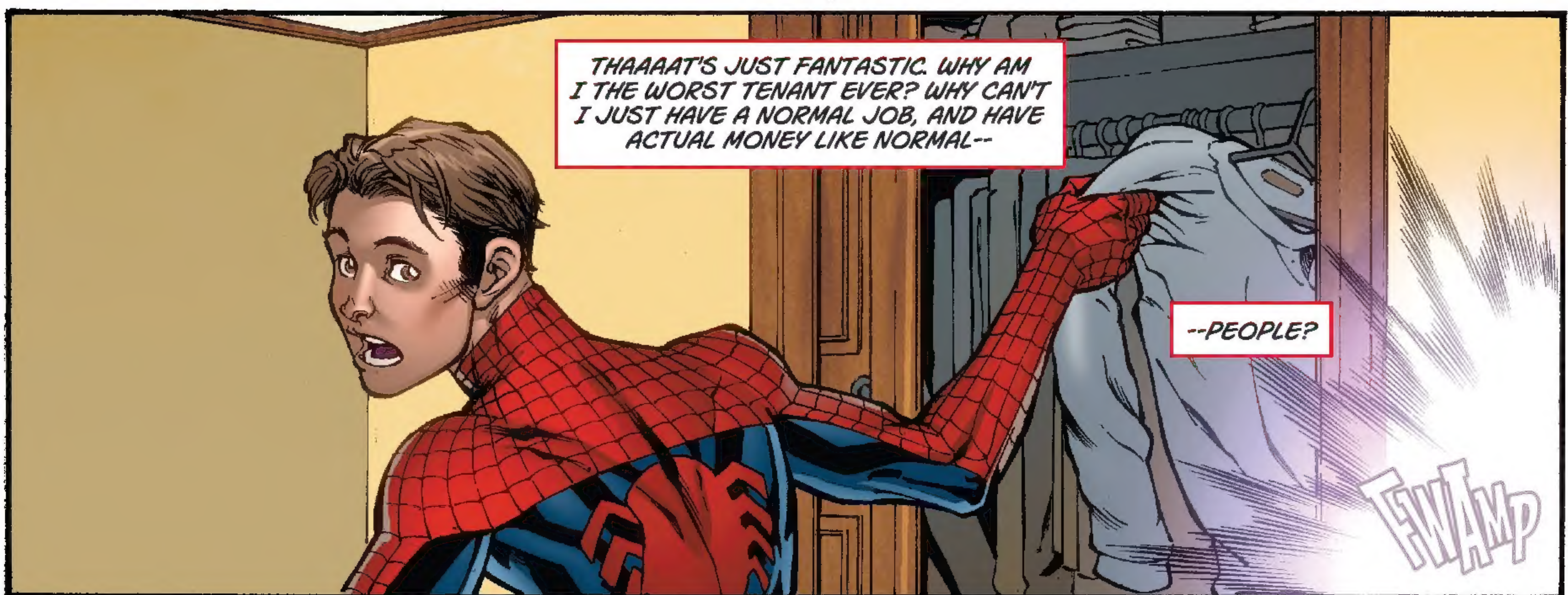
PETER! ARE YOU HOME?



I'LL BE RIGHT OUT, AUNT MAY!

WOW, GIVING HER A KEY WAS A MISTAKE.

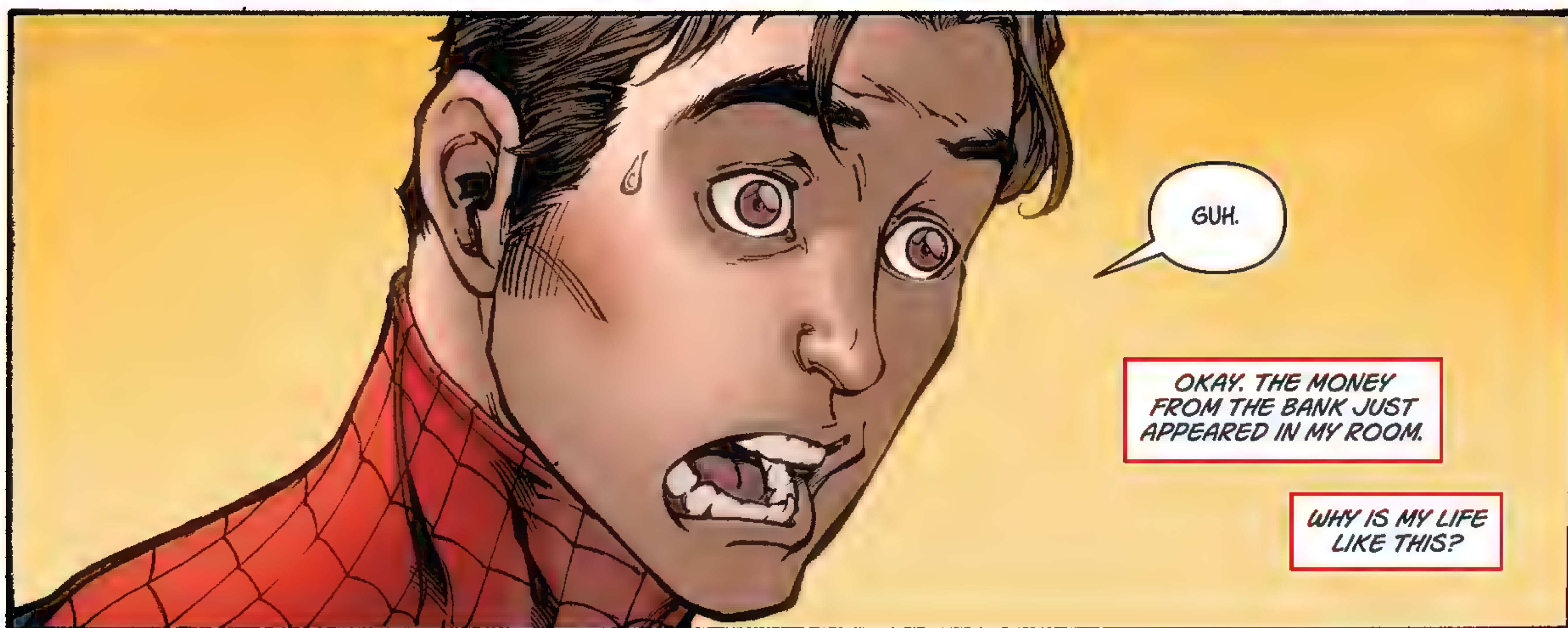
YOUR LANDLORD CALLED ME, THEY SAID I WAS YOUR EMERGENCY CONTACT. HE SEEMED TO THINK THAT YOU WERE BEHIND ON YOUR RENT PAYMENTS...



THAAAAT'S JUST FANTASTIC. WHY AM I THE WORST TENANT EVER? WHY CAN'T I JUST HAVE A NORMAL JOB, AND HAVE ACTUAL MONEY LIKE NORMAL--

--PEOPLE?

FWAMP



GUH.

OKAY. THE MONEY
FROM THE BANK JUST
APPEARED IN MY ROOM.

WHY IS MY LIFE
LIKE THIS?



WHAT WAS THAT?

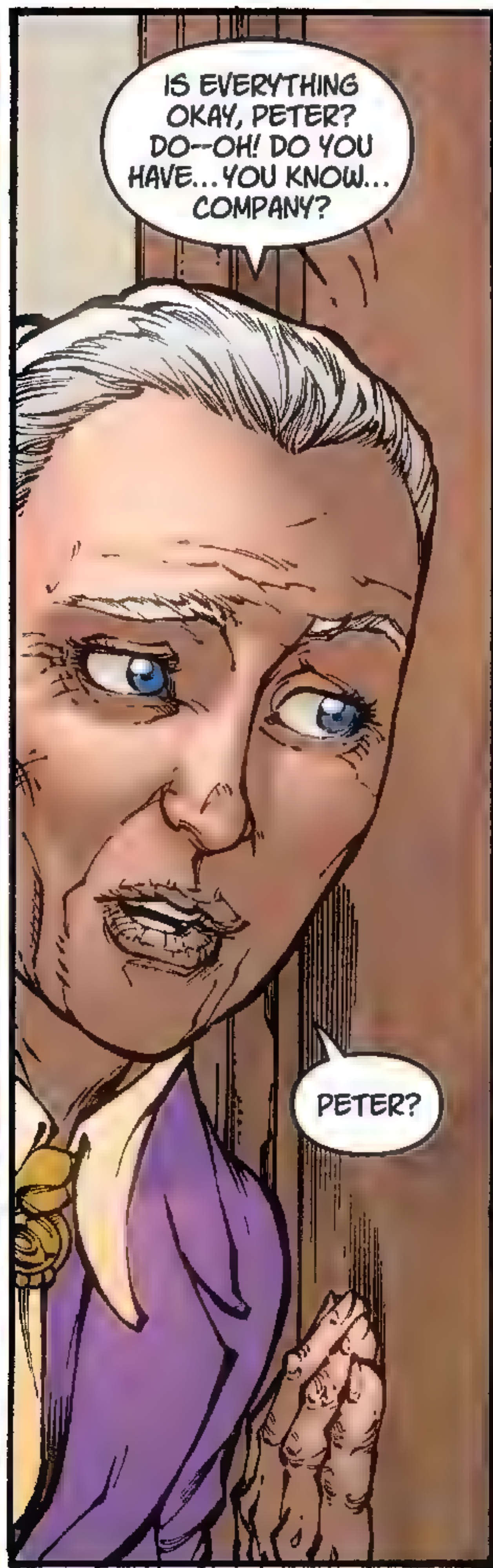
I, UH, DROPPED... MYSELF.

OKAY, THIS LOOKS BAD.



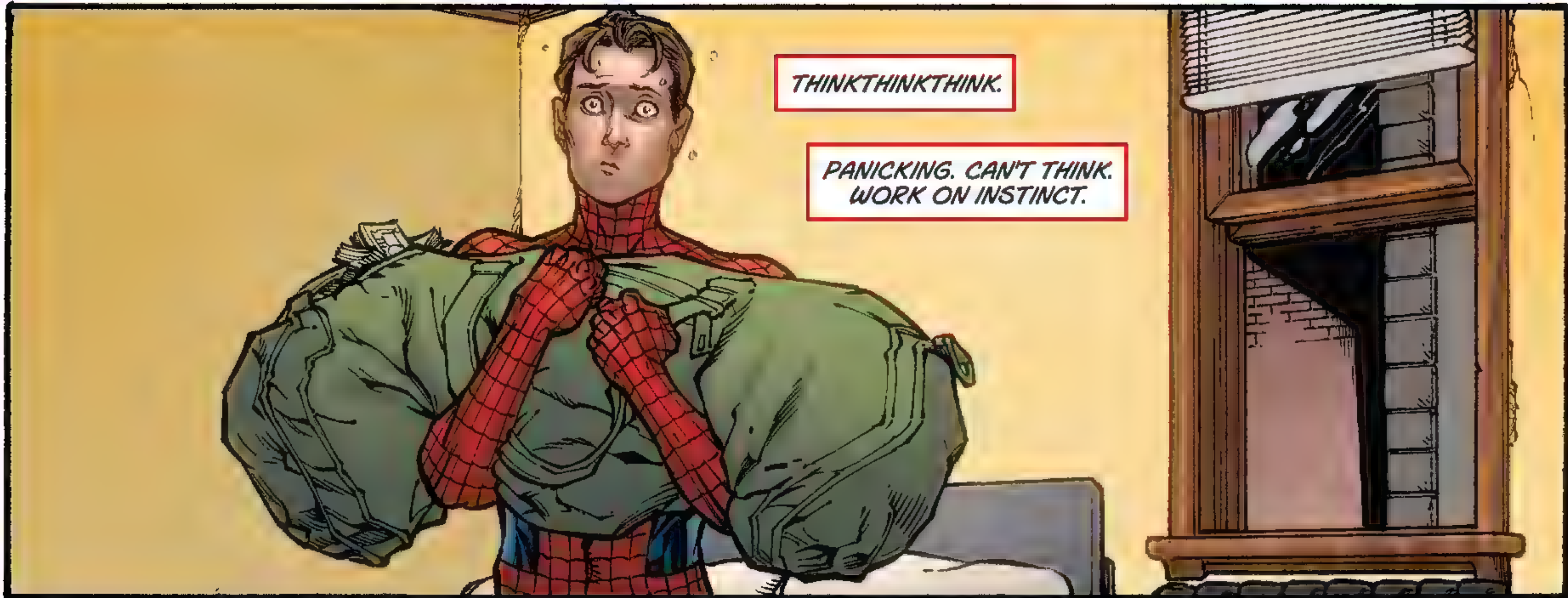
IT HAD TO BE MAGIC GUY. THAT SPELL HE ZAPPED ME WITH MUST HAVE BEEN BY MISTAKE... THAT'S HOW HE WAS GOING TO GET THE MONEY OUT.

HANG ON, I'LL BE RIGHT OUT!
GET UNDER.



IS EVERYTHING OKAY, PETER? DO--OH! DO YOU HAVE... YOU KNOW... COMPANY?

PETER?



THINKTHINKTHINK.

PANICKING. CAN'T THINK. WORK ON INSTINCT.



INSTINCTS BAD.



OKAY, MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IS HEAVY.

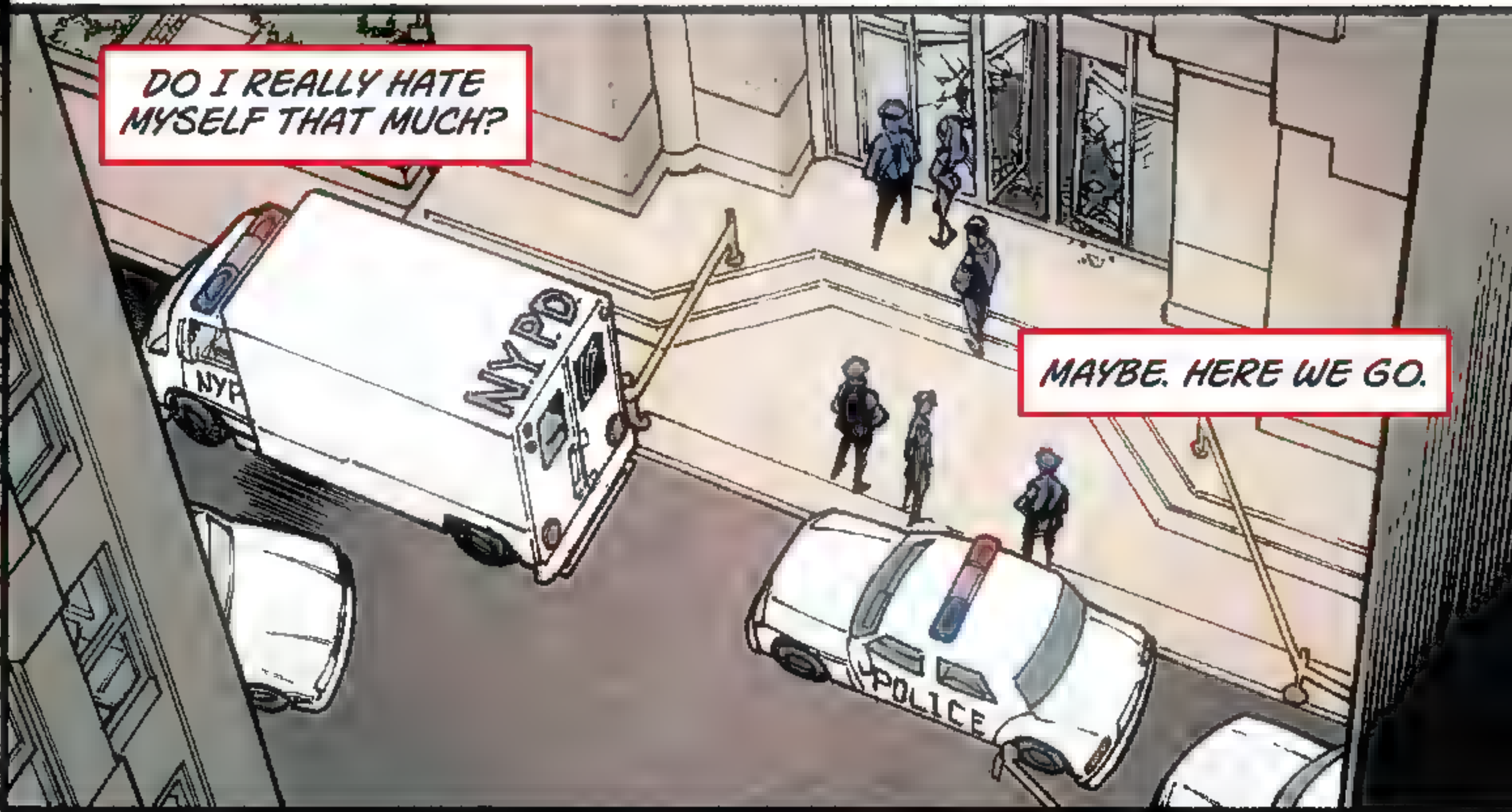
I HAVE TO GET RID OF THIS. EVERYONE WILL THINK I STOLE IT. JJJ WILL HAVE A FIELD DAY IF SOMEONE GETS A PICTURE OF ME WITH...

HM. MAYBE I COULD TAKE A QUICK PICTURE...



DO I REALLY HATE MYSELF THAT MUCH?

MAYBE. HERE WE GO.

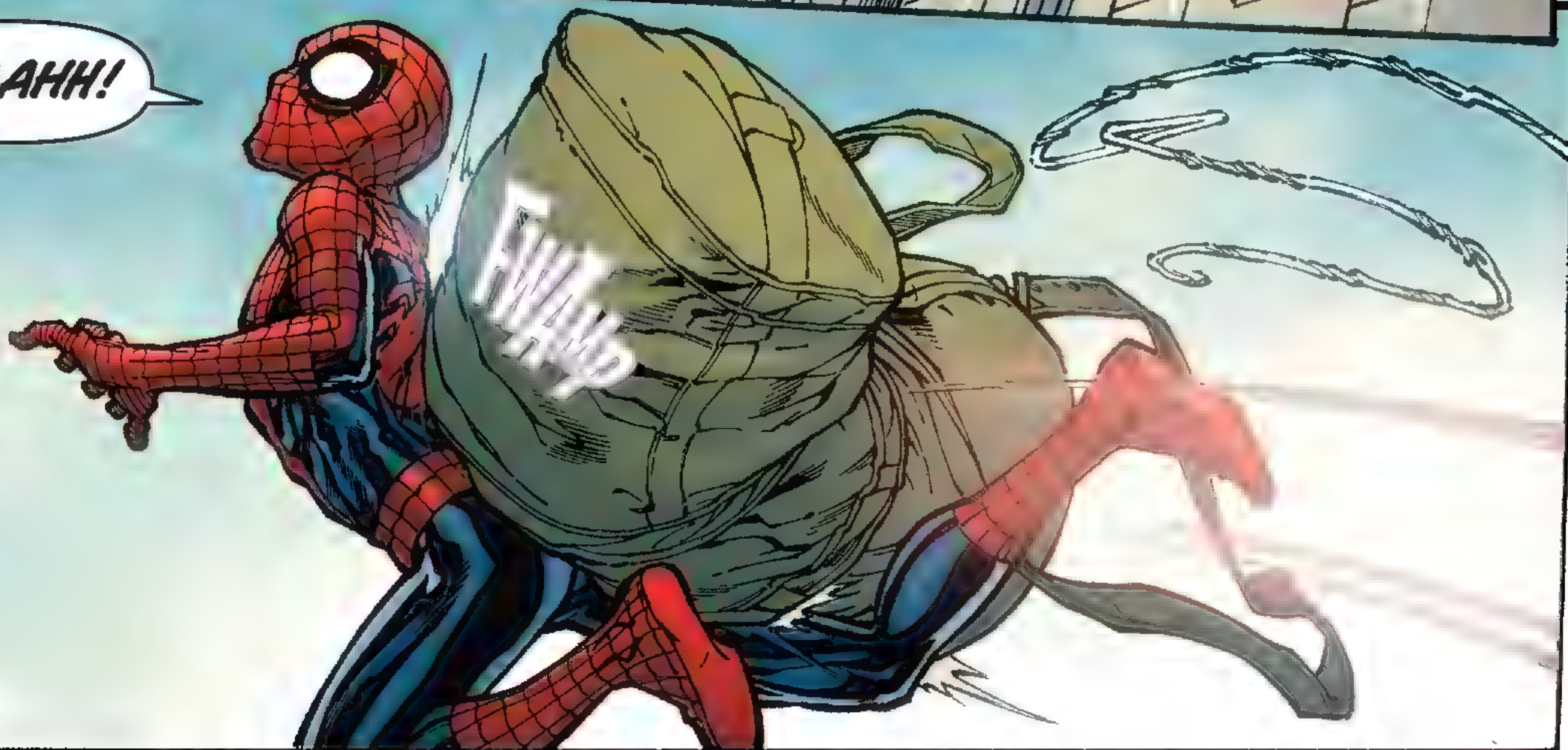


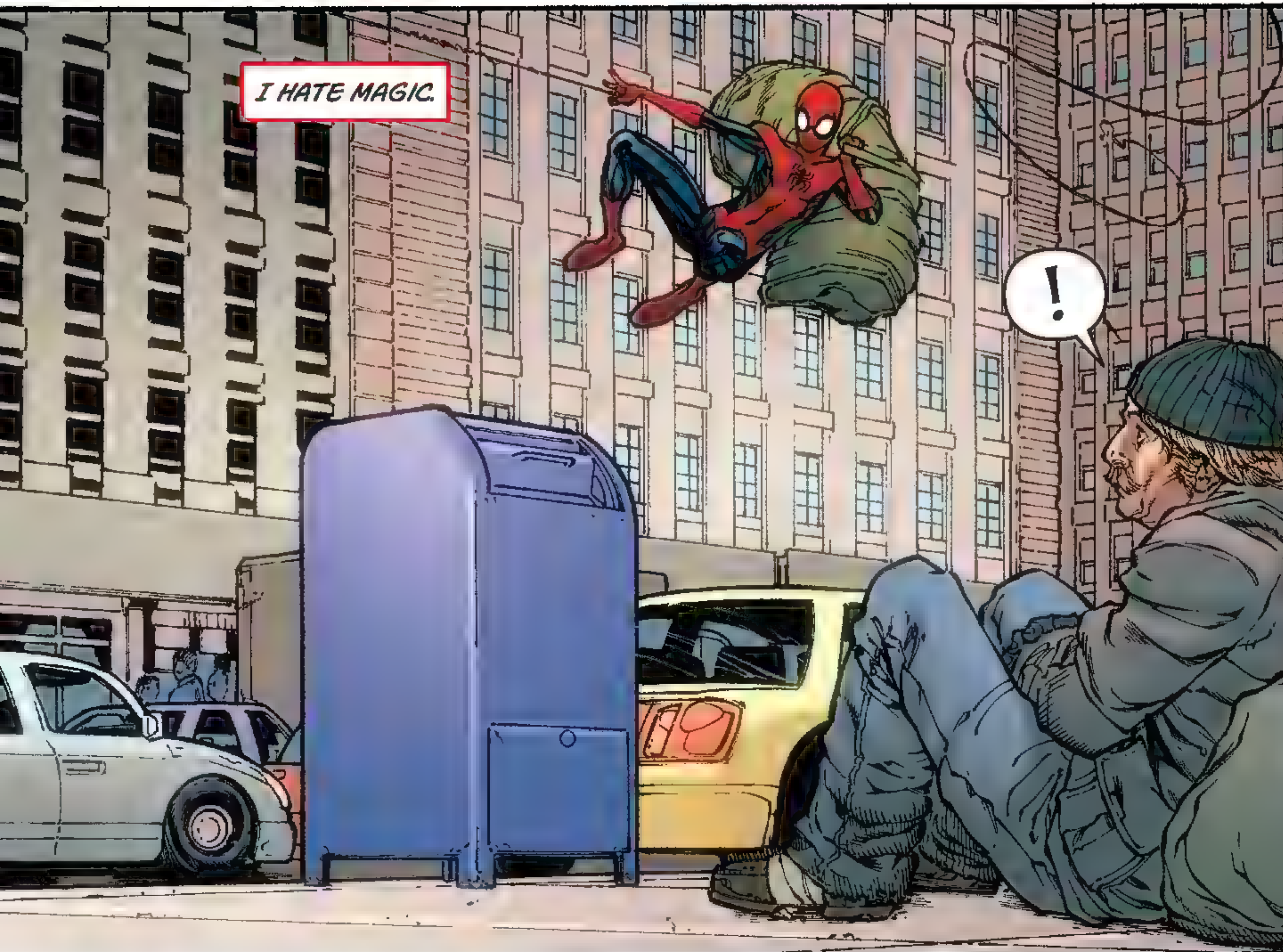
OKAY, MONEY. YOU'RE HOME. NOW STAY!



AAAAAND NOW I'M POOR AGAIN. GREAT. I NEED TO--

AAAAHH!





I HATE MAGIC.

!



NO SPARE CHANGE?! I SEE MONEY STICKING OUT OF YOUR BAG, CHEAPSKATE!

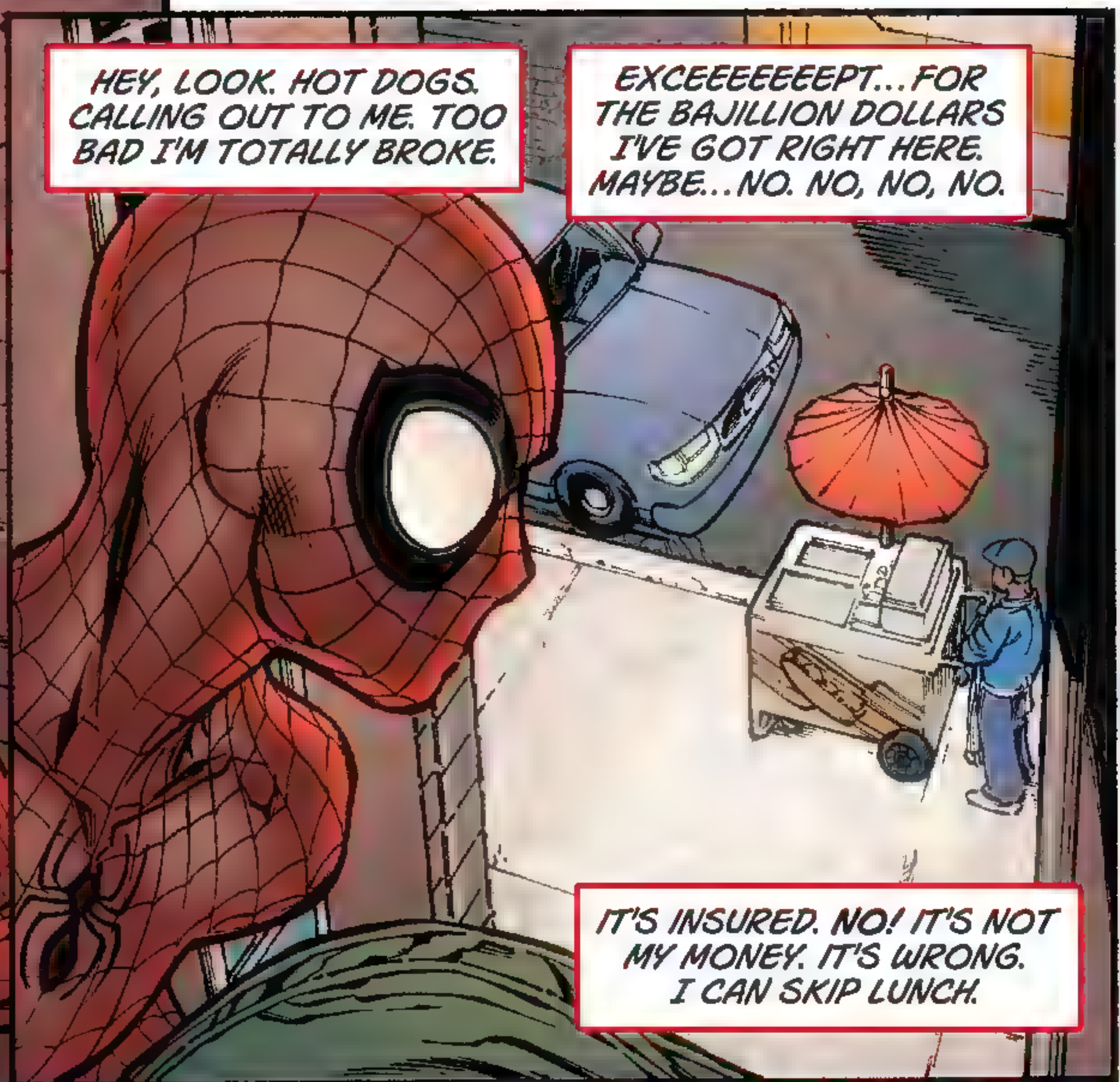
GREAT.



OKAY. I NEED TO REALLY THINK NOW. ALL MY THINKING BEFORE WAS JUST A WARM-UP. IS THIS A DOCTOR STRANGE-LEVEL PROBLEM?

NO. WONG WOULD JUST LAUGH AT ME. I CAN DEAL WITH THIS.

I'M HUNGRY.



HEY, LOOK. HOT DOGS. CALLING OUT TO ME. TOO BAD I'M TOTALLY BROKE.

EXCEEEEEEEPT... FOR THE BAJILLION DOLLARS I'VE GOT RIGHT HERE. MAYBE... NO. NO, NO, NO.

IT'S INSURED. NO! IT'S NOT MY MONEY. IT'S WRONG. I CAN SKIP LUNCH.



YOU SHOULD INVEST THAT MONEY.

THANKS FOR THE TIP.



WELL, AT LEAST I KNOW
THIS MONEY CAN'T
BUY ME HAPPINESS.

A HOUSE. CLOTHES.
WEB-FLUID. FOOD. A CAR.
STUFF. FOOD. DIGNITY.
BUT NOT HAPPINESS.



WHOA!

AND NOW SOMEONE
IS SHOOTING AT ME.



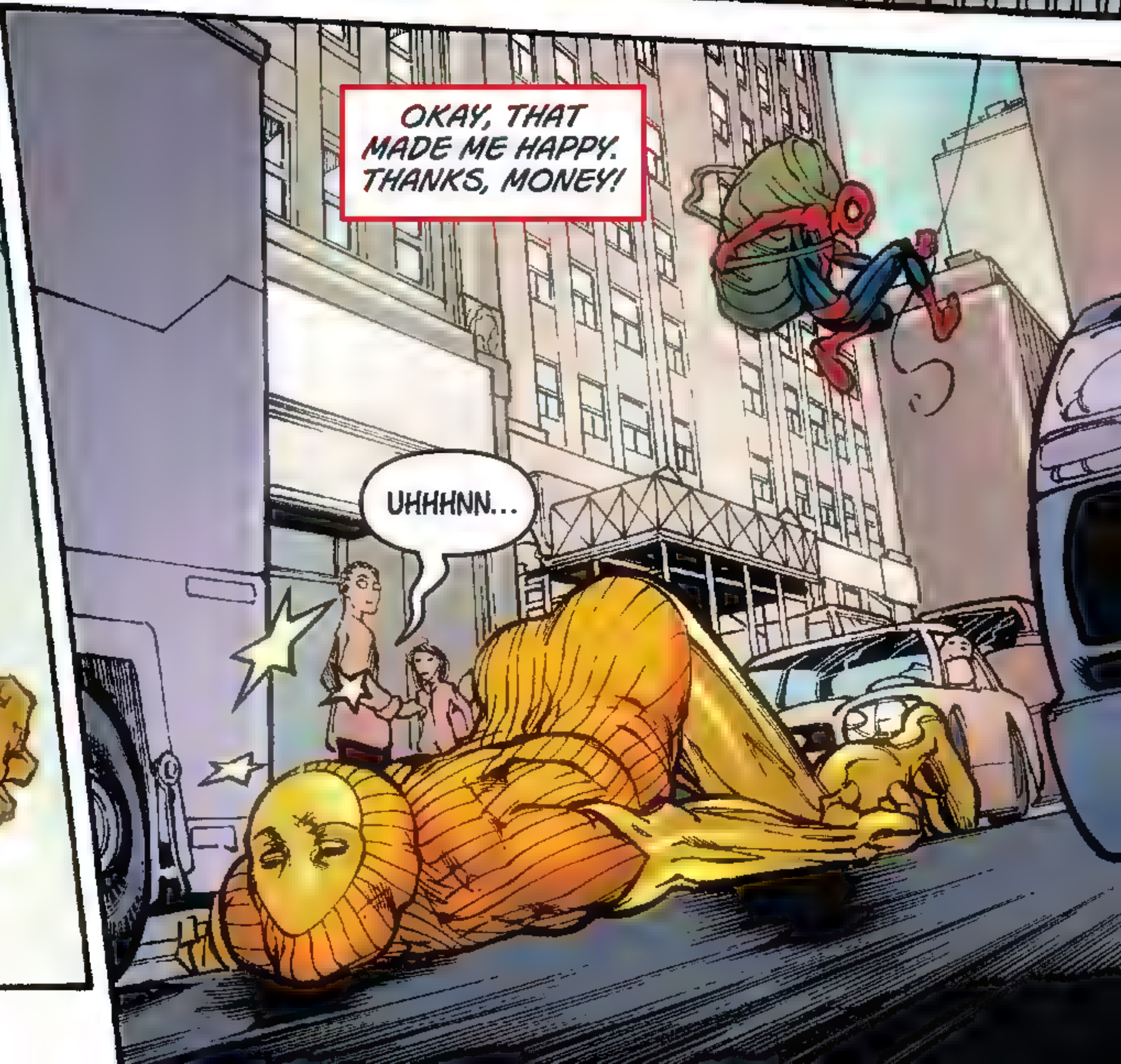
IT ENDS HERE,
SPIDER-MAN!

NOW YOU
FALL BENEATH
THE FURY OF
LIGHTMASTER!



AACK!

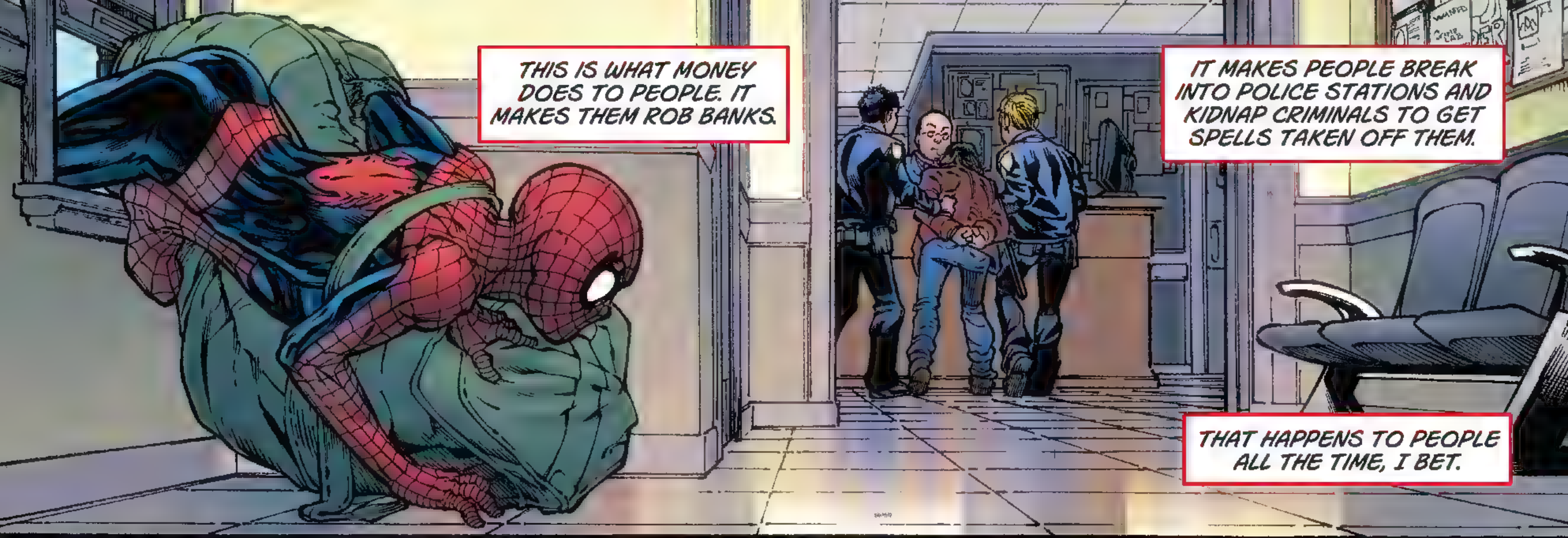
FWAMP



OKAY, THAT
MADE ME HAPPY.
THANKS, MONEY!

UHHNN...





THIS IS WHAT MONEY DOES TO PEOPLE. IT MAKES THEM ROB BANKS.

IT MAKES PEOPLE BREAK INTO POLICE STATIONS AND KIDNAP CRIMINALS TO GET SPELLS TAKEN OFF THEM.

THAT HAPPENS TO PEOPLE ALL THE TIME, I BET.

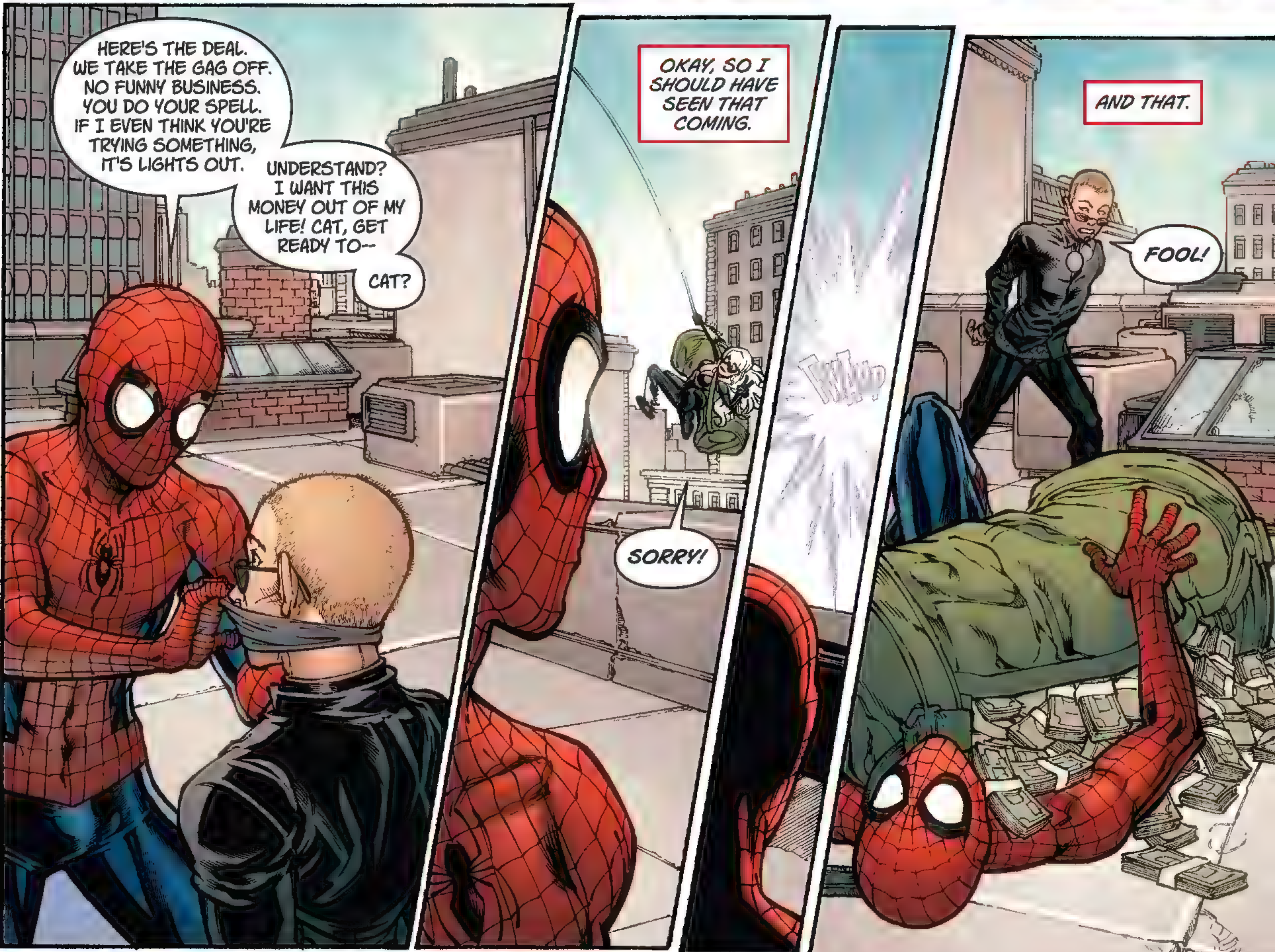


HI, SUNSHINE. DON'T FREAK OUT. WE NEED TO BORROW YOU FOR A MOMENT.

THIS CAN END TWO WAYS. YOU IN JAIL FEELING GOOD ABOUT YOURSELF FOR HELPING US, OR YOU IN JAIL ALL SAD BECAUSE WE JUST BEAT YOU UP. EVEN MORE THAN BEFORE.

YOU CHOOSE.

HRMF! HRFF!



HERE'S THE DEAL. WE TAKE THE GAG OFF. NO FUNNY BUSINESS. YOU DO YOUR SPELL. IF I EVEN THINK YOU'RE TRYING SOMETHING, IT'S LIGHTS OUT.

UNDERSTAND? I WANT THIS MONEY OUT OF MY LIFE! CAT, GET READY TO--

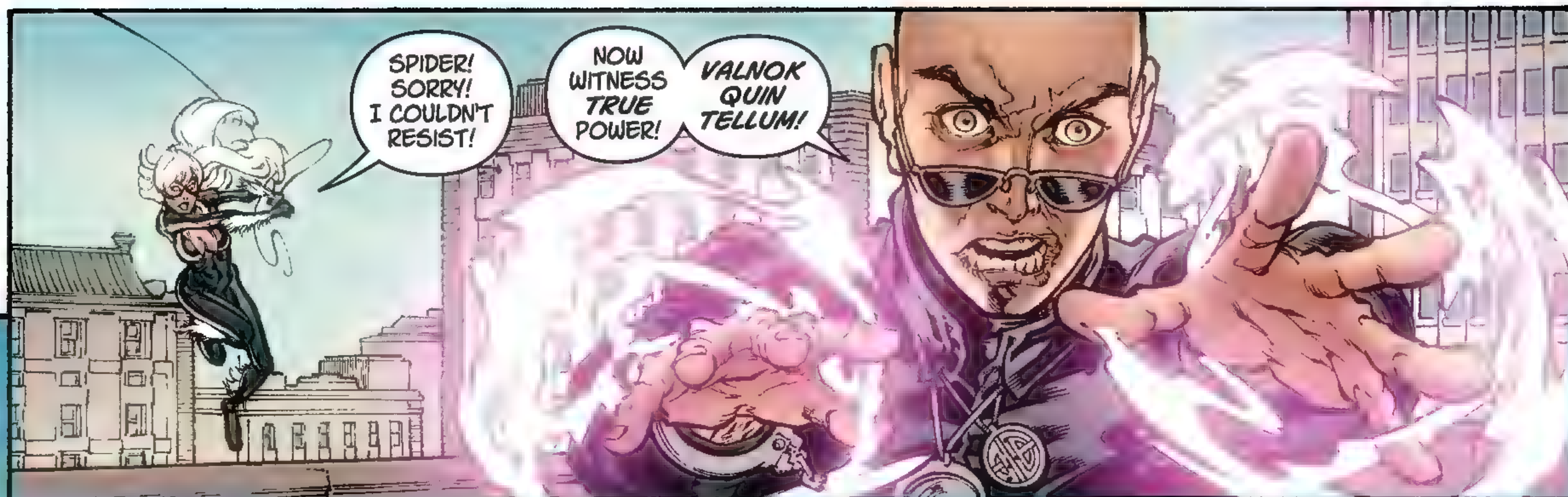
CAT?

OKAY, SO I SHOULD HAVE SEEN THAT COMING.

AND THAT.

FOOL!

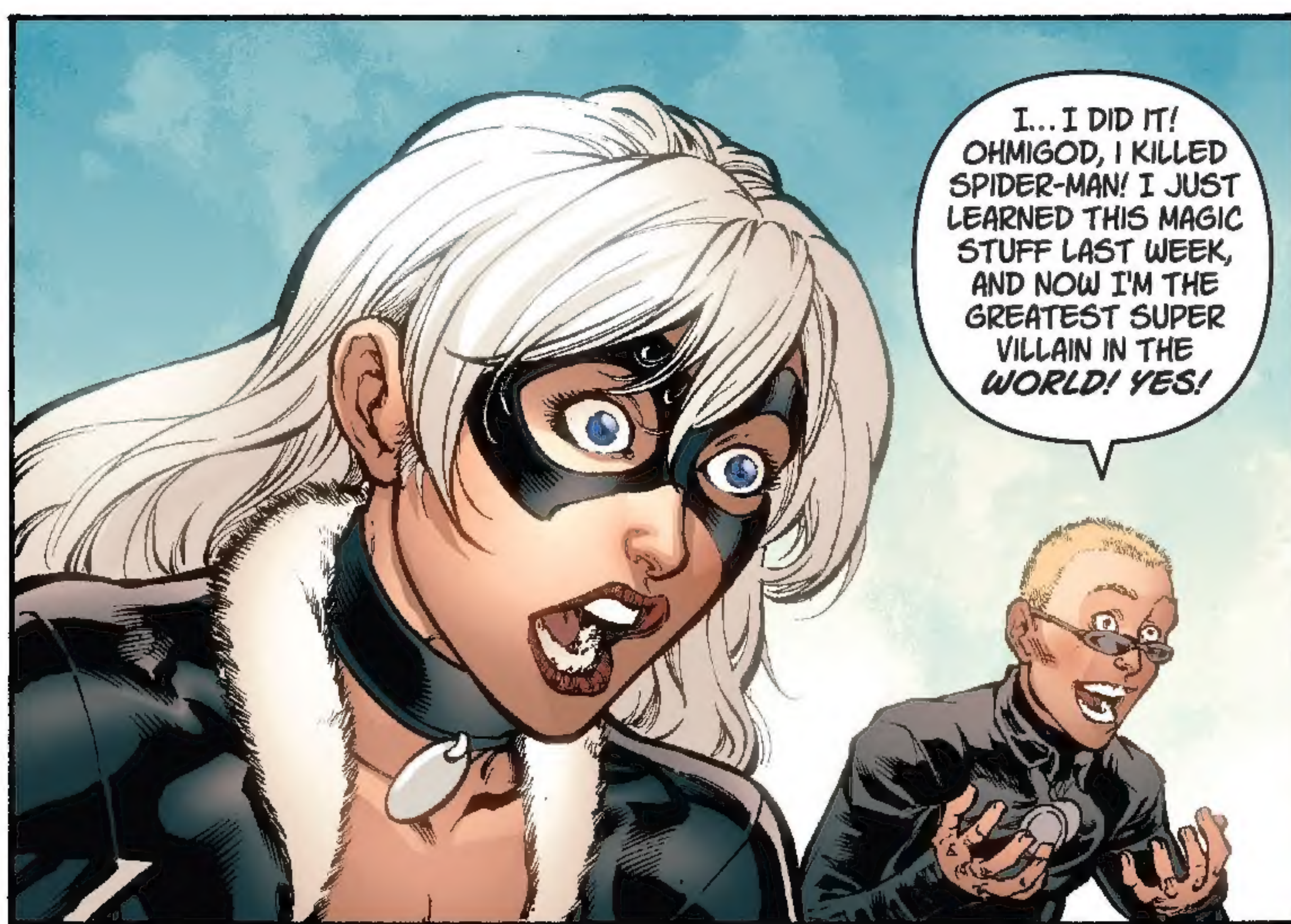
SORRY!



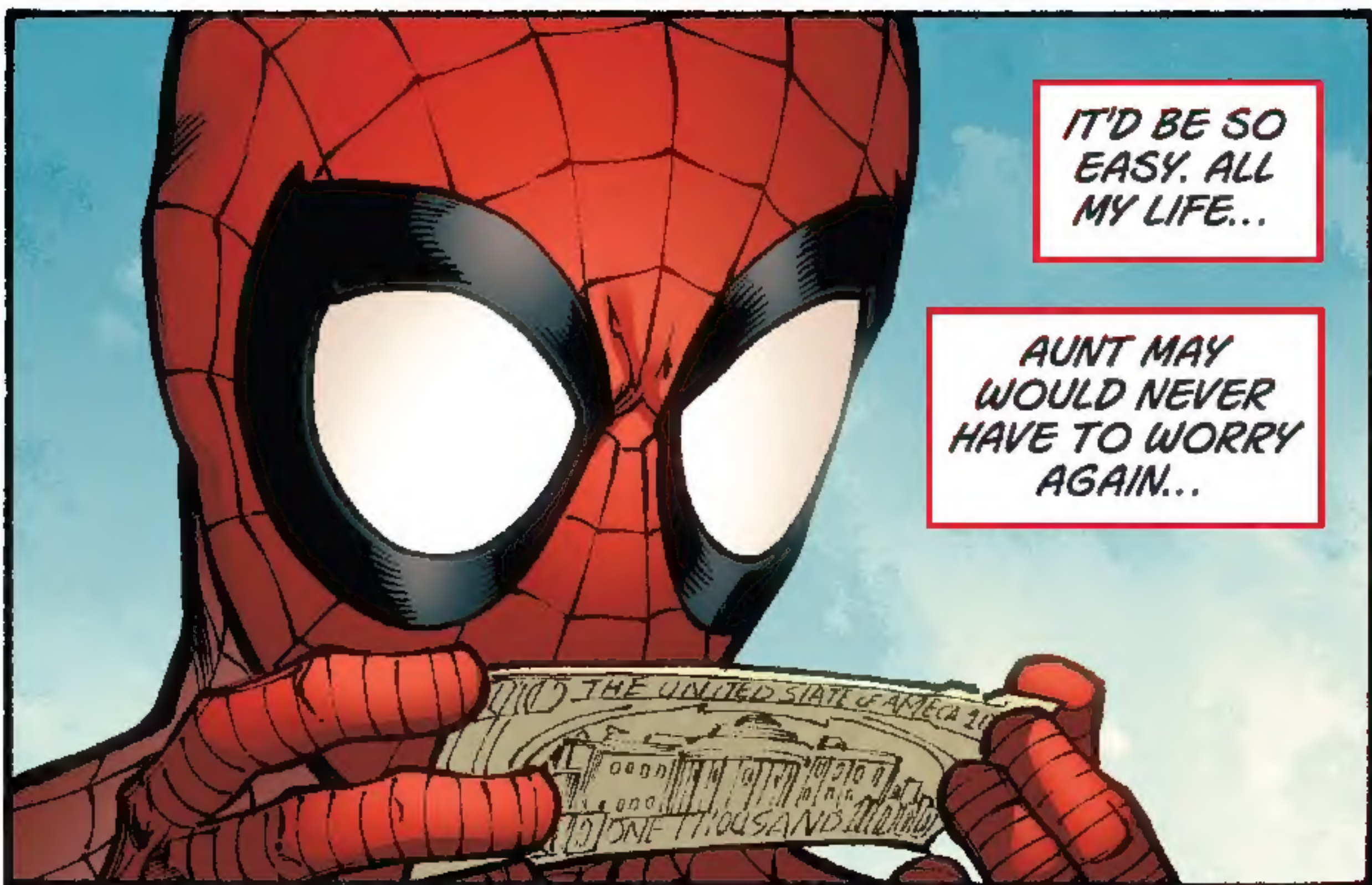
DAMN YOU,
BENJAMIN
FRANKLIN.

HRROOAAAR











MONEY IS THE
ROOT OF ALL EVIL.



I'M BETTER OFF
WITHOUT IT.



ANYWAY, OTHER
PEOPLE NEED IT MORE
THAN ME, RIGHT?



SO I'LL ORDER A
PIZZA. AND CHARGE IT.

SERVICE
UNAVAILABLE
DUE TO NON-
PAYMENT.

≡SIGH≡

END.